THE Whole Fanzine Catalog #5

I DIG 'EM, MAN.
THESE GOSH-DAMNED PHONY INTELLECTUAL FANZINES GIVE ME A PAIN IN MY PSEUDO-PHILOSOPHICAL MIND.
FANS, FENS AND FUNS ON PARADE
BRYAN

THE (Really Incompleat) WHOLE FANZINE CATALOG #5 (December, 1978 fanzines)
Published and written by Brian Earl Brown, 16711 Burt Rd.#207,Detroit,Mi 48219.
A Religious Publication (# 94)

The goal of the WHOLE FANZINE CATALOG is to review ,if not every fanzine being published, at least as many of them as I am sent. (And currently, that's getting to be quite a few.) WoFan is published on a determedly irregular schedule that amounts to monthly to bimonthly publication. There's been five issues since Iguanacon and little likelihood of things slowing down. I do hope to stablize at about six-weekly publication.

The reviews can not help but be biased but I do try to be objective. Bias is natural to any reviewer of any medium. Over the course of this zine and over the course of the zine, my biases should become evident so that you will be able to make allowances for them.

After each review there will be a numerical rating of that zine. I use a scale of zero to seven since I couldn't think of enough gradiations for a ten point scale. 0 -- the absolute pits. 1 -- pretty poor 2 -- uninteresting. 3 -- readable but with no outstanding or noteworthy contents. 4 -- enjoyable and pleasant (you're on the road to the perfect fanzine) 5 -- Good. 6 -- Reccommended. 7 -- The Perfect Fanzine (You've found the Enchanted Duplicator and will now translate directly into heaven.) Ratings of 0 and 7 will almost never be used since no zine is that bad or that good. Criteria for the ratings is mostly on the contents with some consideration for the zines appearence. Allowances will be made for a zines purpose when that conflicts with its success as a fanzine.

A fanzine, as I see it, is any publication about SF and published by SF fans. Amateur or professional (IE profit-making) intents are beside the point. Each issue of every fanzine received will be reviewed, tho the reviews might become shorter and shorter. The purpose of this fanzine is to provide access to fanzines.

AVAILABLILITY -- WoFan is available for Trades and cash only. I would like to make this fanzine as near to a self-supporting fanzine as possible. With its frequency of publication, I can not afford to just give this zine away to anyone who asks for it. As it is,most copies are given away in trade for other fanzines. To encourage trades I offer very generous trade terms of three issues for one of yours. I can't afford to trade all-for-all since so many fanzines publish infrequently and disappear unexpectedly. But I did want to offer enough issues per trade that regular fanzine publishers could stay on my mailing list.

Letters of comment are appreciated but probably will never be published and *sigh* will not recieve copies in response. Accepted pieces of artwork will garner a three issue subscription, artists, however are more likely end up in the MSD artfiles,tho. As you might notice, WoFan doesn't use much art.

SUBSCRIPTION : 40¢ a copy, 5/$2. Overseas airmail 4/$3. Seamail overseas is the same as US rates. This is a price increase. The previous price was too close to at-cost. While this increase isn't much I hope it will keep me from going broke quite as fast as the previous rate.

MAILING CODE After your name on the address label will be some combination of letters and numbers. The number is that of the last issue of your subscription or trade. An "R" means that your zine is reviewed in this issue. A "T" indicates that this is a trade copy. An "X" in the box provided means that this is your last issue, and won't you subscribe again.....

NEXT ISSUE The next issue will be a double-length issue. In additions to the regular features there will appear a year in review section and (length permitting)maybe even a few letters. But the capstone of the issue will be the results of the first annual WoFan Poll. Please send in your nominations for favorite artist, writer and editor or the year 1978 (a limit of five nominations in any category) and your pick of the ten best articles to appear in fanzines in 1978. I've already received some repponses and hope to have more by the Febuary 1st deadline-- well maybe a little later than that. Certainly the 15th at the latest. Now on to the zines.....

ANVIL 2 Wade Gilbreath, 4206 Balboa Ave., Pinson,Al 35216
8 pages xerox. (Dated December,1978) Available for trade or for 6/$2.50
Clubzine for the Birmingham,Alabama Science Fiction Club. Usual mixture of material for a clubzine -- local news, book reviews,articles,etc. Most clubzines are inherently dull to outsiders while serving useful and vital services to club members.
Rating -- 2

ARGO NAVIS (Vol 3 #2. July,1978) John Rowley,editor., S.R.C. Box 42, La Trobe Univeristy, Bundoora, Vic. 3083, AUSTRALIA. Quarterly. Available for 80¢A or 5/$3.50A. or the usual.

There's an interview with a Frank Bryning, an SF author published in Australia, fiction by Brian Stephens, reviews,letters,and John J. Alderson defending the reasons he wrote a story the way he did. The Alderson piece was the most interesting piece in a rather bland issue.
Rating -- 3

Booklists -- Dr. David A. McClintock,P.O.Box 3111 Warren,Ohio 44485. catalog #13. 184 items. Some SF, mostly rare editions.

BOOWATT #28 ,Garth Danielson,editor. (new address) 322 worth 25th Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55411. 8 pages mimeo. Available for 4/$3. Dated December,1978).

23 stencils were used to make this 8-pager into a multi-color extravaganza. Some bad electrostencils and the failure to slipsheet the first page mar the appearence somewhat, but so what! This issue talks of Garth decision to marry Susan Ryan and move to Minneapolis, and his plans for upcoming issues of BOOWATT.
RATING -- 3

BRAINCANDY #1 (October 1978) Jason Keehn,editor. apt.18,38 Hannum Dr., Ardmore,PA 19003. Available for"the usual"(accepted contributions of articles or art, letters of comment or trades.) or for 60¢.16 pages offset.

Jason starts off modestly with his first issue. There are a number of book reviews, a funny Cthulhu story by Darrel Schweitzer (reprinted from MYRDDIN) and a lengthy look at HEAVY METAL written by Jason. The highpoint of this issue is Jason's artwork, which is very striking and well executed. I think this is a zine with promise.
Rating -- 3.

CHAT Vol2 #3 (December,1978). Dick and Nicki Lynch, editors, 4207 Davis Ln., Chattanooga,TN. 37416.14 pages xerox., monthly, available for 25¢ or membership in the Chattanooga SF Association.

Clubzine. The usual plus demented cartoon strips by Charlie Williams, transcript of a Jack Chalker interview, column by Perry Chapdelaine,Sr., on the problems of small press publishers. An active and interesting club.
Rating -- 3

CHECKPOINT #92, Peter Roberts, editor. 38 Oakland Dr., Dawlish,Devon,UK. 6 pages mimeo. Available for news,cash and others (see zine for list of others) 5/50p UK& Europe, 4/$1 American & African airmail or 6/£1 Australian & NZ airmail) pay in bills or international reply coupons (see your Post office for them). No foriegn checks or coins.)

The British newszine. Annouces the beginning of this years TAFF campaign, a TAFF fanzine sale, a NOVACON 8 report, also Milford, Philcon, COAs and a smattering of other fannish news. This is the best zine for keeping up to date on the fannish going-ons over in Britain -- oops, the United Kingdoms.
Rating -- 5

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$1.60 will get you an exquiste folio of Derek Carter's artwork and will help support the Trans-Atlantic Fan Fund and the Down Under Fan Fund. Send your money today to Brian Brown, at this address andask for the DEREK CARTER ALPHABET.

THE DEVIL'S Advocate #3Barry Meikle,editor. 877 Kensington Dr., Peterborough,Ont. Canada k9j 6j8. 36 pages digest sized.Offset. Available for the usual or 22¢. (A fanzine to be had for a 'sticky quabter'!) No date.
LOKI #2 ,Michael V. MacKay,editor.1587 Westbrook Dr., Peterborough,Ont. Canada k9j 6r6. 16 pages offset. Available for the usual or 50¢. Dated December,1978.

There's good reason to consider these two zines together -- I had to find MacKay's address in Meikle's zine. Beyond that Barry contributes an article to Michael's zine and vice versa. One wonders why they don't pool their resources (themselves) and produce one zine. Barry writes an ambling,readable column of personal natters. Michael's guest column complains about the tendency for SF stories to cop-out with their endings, citing Blish's A CASE OF CONSCIENCE and Spider Robinson's "Antimony" as examples. The appearence and layout is pleasent. A zine with potential. Rating --3. That was for DEVIL'S ADVOCATE.

LOKI is a bit more sercon tho Michael's "A Modest Proposal" is certainly fannishly silly enough. Barry reviews the LOTR movie , giving it mixed ratings. Michael responds to a Mundane's review of OMNI. Another zine with potential. Rating --3.

DIGRESSIONS #3 (March,1978) John Bartelt,editor. 401--8th St.,SE #8, Minneapolis, Minn. 55414. 27 pages mimeo. Available for the usual or 60¢.

Another late fanzine, but still a zine well worth getting. There's a lovely , cover by Jeanne Gomoll, an interview with Sir Fred Hoyle who was singulasly blase about his career as an SF writer but fascinated by the idea of starches in interstellar space. Jim Young provides Minn-stipple madness, Dave Wixon reviews books and ye editor (Bartelt) the probability of anti-gravity. A good genzine. We need more like this. Rating -- 4.

DNQ 12 (December,1978). Editors: Victoria Vayne and Taral Wayne MacDonald
P O Box 156 stn D, Toronto,Ont. Canada m6p 3j8
1812-415 Willowdale Ave. Willowdale,Ont. Canada m2n 5b4
8 pages mimeo. Available for 3/$1(US)

DNQ is not exactly a newszine, tho it bears many resemblences to one. This issue highlights that differences by turning its attention to items of fan history. Ted White sets straight the publication history of some 50's fanzines. And Taral writes a biography of a late fan (and pro) artist named Paul Kline. Taral also traced a sample of Kline's art for DNQ. As Taral admits, not a few of his mannerisms unfortunately came through. But you'd have to know Taral's art (or Kline's) to really notice this. Kline was a very talented artist -- in fact a pro who started in fanzines and never quite left. The pity is that Kline's fanac kept him from being more successful as a pro. The zine is rounded out with an interesting piece of Future Fan History (with no apologizes to Heinlein) reprinted from Calcium Light Nights. All the art this time is hand-stenciled and shows what can be down with the medium. Rating -- 6.

DREAM VENDOR #3 Alan Sandercock & Sue Trowbridge,editors. 44 Glen Rd.,#1009, Hamilton,Ont. Canada L8S 4N2. (dated Fall, 1978) 48 pages offset, digest-sized, reduced type. Available for the usual or 50¢.

The type is much too small and the printing just enough uneven to make reading a chore but as I read my way through this personalzine I began to regret that I wasn't living in Detroit at the time that Alan got stuck in Detroit while trying to get into Canada, and couldn't offer him some crash space because he really seems like someone I'd like to get to know. Alan talks about his and Sue's travels in Europe before his job went sour and he found a position in Canada, his problems getting into Canada (being an Australian student from Germany killing time in the US. It is complicated) but he finally arrived. There's a conreport on Britain's '78 easter convention,Skycon, film, book and fanzine reviews and an interesting piece on the nature of a sequal to Spielberg's TV-movie,Duel, that sounds like a filmable scenario. Letters fill out the ish. It is very good personalzine because it is a very well written zine. Alan has obviously thought out what he wanted to write ahead

of time and writes with care an economy. Rating -- 5.

ETHEL THE FROG #1 (November,1978) Tony Renner,editor. P O Box 851, Panama,Ill. 62077. 19 pages ditto(offset cover). Available for $1 or the usual.

Stan Burns reviews 23 book in 8 pages. Burt Libe and Robert LaRouche each offer an additional book review, Lee Smith reviews some fanzines and that's it. Tony doesn't even write an editorial. The ditto's readable but not outstanding, but then I've seen some poor offset,too. Mostly I wonder what the editor gets out of a zine he makes so little contribution to. Rating -- 2.

FANTASY NEWSLETTER #8 (January,1979) Paul Allen,editor. 1015 West 36th St., Loveland,Colo 80537. 8 pages reduced type offset. Available for 12/$5 US,$6 Canada and $9 elsewhere via airmail.

Small (and not so small) press notes. There's an annoucement of the "Balrog" awards to be given out by fantasy fans by the annual Fool-Con at Johnson Community College,Overland Park,KS. a few cover proofs of upcoming books and news of the publishing plans for many of the small press (Gregg, Gerry de la Ree, etc.,) publisher, semi-pro zines like FANTASY CROSSROADS, DARK FANTASY ,etc, and a large listing of the next months releases from most of the trade and paperback publishers. Easily the best and earliest listing of forthcoming books. Rating -- 5.

FARRAGO #9 Donn Brazier, editor. 1455 Fawnvalley Dr., St.Louis,MO. 63131. 44 pages xerox, available for $1 or the usual. No'date.

Donn's haphazard approach to layout of this genzine has always put me off a little. There are no page numbers, no table of contents and a vaguely unaesthetic look to the layout that whispers crudzine. It isn't though. The inelegance comes from Donn working on this zine at odd moments at work and running it off whenever the office xerox is being underutilized. On the plus side are things like Ben Indick's "A, MERRITT: A Personal Reappraisal", a new look by a mature fan of one of the great authors of his youth. Ben find much in Merritt worth reading,yet. And "Crab Nebula" by Eric Mayer, a third-person autobiography of a reluctant fan. -- Oops, that's a second person narrative. Eric puts a lot more time into crafting his essays than I do these reviews, and it shows. I consider Eric the best Fan writer today. In addition there are literally scores of other bits of comment, polls, articles, photographs of fans, and so on. FARRAGO is a zine much like SFR in that it succeeds by offering a lot of different material. Rating -- 5

FILE 770 #9 (December 14,1978) Mike Glyer, editor. 14974 Osceola St., Sylmar,CA. 91342. 22 pages mimeo. Available for 4/$2. (new sub rates).

A newszine, reporting all the latest gossip and scandel. If you're not interested in that sort of material, there are chance of address (COA) notices, convention listings and even articles like this issues' expose on convention oligrach, Doug Wright. Clubs are announced, fan fund reported and like stuff. An essential zine for those who take their fandom seriously. Rating -- 6

GROGGY TALES #4, Eric Mayer & Kathy Malone,editors. 175 Congress St., apt.#5F, Brooklyn,NY 11201. 18 pages hekto(!) Available by editor's whim. Dated December, 1978.

Hekto, Eric mentions,is a good way to avoid the 'bigger and better' syndrome that infects most fan eds at sometime or another. At most 50 copies are be made keeping one's mailing list down to a very managable level. It also allows one to 'paint' (with an unfortunately limited number of colors) illustrations in a way that mimeo doesn't. The front cover of GROGGY 4 is stunning. Against a purple night sky the title fades away in early AMAZING STORIES letters while glowing red-eyed sheep frolic beside a crashed Soyuz spacecraft. Inside is a diptych of City/Country skylines in lurid greens and reds. Eric talks about the meaning color has for him in his opening essay which leads to a contrast between country and city life, some of the reasons for his doing GROGGY and what he hopes not to become while becoming a lawyer. Clearly a rambling essay, but one that never gives evidence that it doesn't

know where it's going. There's also an article by Donn Brazier inside plus a lengthy lettercol that is more like a dialog among friends. . I've already mentioned that I consider Eric the best writer in fandom currently so it should come as no surprise that I rate this zine a -- 6.

ISHUE #7, Taral Wayne MacDonald,editor. c/o BAKKA, 282 Queen St.,W., Toronto,Ont. Canada m5v 2a1. 12 pages mimeo. Dated December 1978) Available for OSFiC membership.. $6/year) (But I think this may be the last issue.)

The Osfic club newsletter but made distinctive by the fact that Taral has had to fill most of the pages. Taral is very good at editing a breezy, interesting clubzine. I felt it good enough to actually pay money for. However Taral found that doing a 12 page ISH every month, plus DNQ (with Victoria Vayne) and working towards a second issue of his own zine was too much like work and has, it seems, talked the club into subscribing to DNQ as their core clubzine, with a flyer attached listing upcoming me tings and such essential club business. This issue is interesting for Taral "I Hate Idiots" Idiotorial, which is sure to offend everyone but Buck Coulson (Taral, how did you miss Buck?) Anne Sherlock provides a walking tour of Toronto bookshops, blood flows among the letters, all the things that make for a fun clubzine. As this is the last issue there's no point in giving it a rating, but if I did it would be a 4.

LOCUS #216 (November,1978), Charles N. Brown,editor. Box 3938, San Francisco,CA. 94119. 20 pages reduced type offset. Available for $1 or $9/year US and Canada.

The trade paper for professionals in the SF field. It started out fannishly like FILE 770 but got sucked into the swirl of author hobnobbing. Crammed into its columns of tiny print is an endless chain of novels sold, editorial musical chairs at the publishers, books planned, books sold, obituaries and Algis Budrys writing "On Writing"(which is probably the best series of lectures on how to create a story that has been done). There are occasionalbook reviews, lettercols, many adverts and a very active classified ads section. It's the place one is most likely to find all the professional news, and their annual readers' poll is probably more interesting than the Hugo, two good reasons for subscribing. Rating -- 5.

LONDON SF#1, Alan & Elke Stewart,editors. 81 Albert Rd., Walthamstow, London, E17 7PT,England. 72 pages half-A5 (large digest) Dated Autumn 1977 (Yes, 77) available for 50p or $1 or the usual.

A genzine that may turn out to be a one-shot. Much of the material here is kind of dated. Do you care for another review of ROLLERBALL? Still interesting is a column by Paul Skelton,and Peter Presford writes on "When is a Fan not a Fan" which concerns how fan eds determine who to send zines to, a short story by Andrew Darlington which is actually readable -- the couple other stories aren't and some idiosyncratic art by David "Shep" Kirkbride. The lettercol is rendered almost obscure by its age. A decent sort of zine but lacking outstanding features. Rating --3.

LULU REVU #3 (December,1978) Pubbyg Press Publications, publisher. 11220 Bird Rd., Richmond,B.C. Canada v6x 1n8. 6 pages reduced offset. Available for 8/$3 or 1 for 1 trades.

Fanzine reviews published, so it says, every six weeeks. I'm amused to note that a subscription flyer plugs Lulu as "Fandom's most comprehensive publication exclusively for the fan press." But then their fandom isn't my fandom. Most of the 39 zines reviewed here are comicszine, with a good number of them comic strip-zines. If you have interests in comics fandom, Lulu is the zine that offers access to comics fandom. The reviews are printed in very tiny print, are somewhat longer than mine and tend to be kind of negative. The style of writing reminds me of someone o.d.ing on Ellison's THE GLASS TEAT. .Some of these zines undoubtedly deserve their negative reviews but reviewers should take pleasure out of being negative to a zine. Rating--4

Not

MAD SCIENTIST'S DIGEST #5 (December,1978) Brian Earl Brown,editor. 16711 Burt Rd. #207, Detroit,Mi. 48219. 46 pages mimeo. Available for $1 o

What can I say about my own fannzine that won't sound self-serving? Let me mention some of them anyway -- brilliant, fantasitc, impeccibly mimeoed! Pardon me, I feel a horselaugh coming on. I am proud of the contents, Ian Williams gives potted biographies of British fans one is likely to meet at Seacon. Sam Long talks of the weather, Mary Long talks of her days in British fandom, I talk about what's happening and the letterhacks fight it out amo ngst themselves. There's the usual color mimeo work, tho it's not as good as it could be. I have a few copies left over for sale. I'm being very stingy with trades in an efort to keep MSD's mailing list below 300 copies. You buy it, you rate it.

MOTA #26. (November,1978) Terry Hughes,editor. 4739 Washington,Blvd.,Arlington,Va. 22205. 18 pages mimeo,offset cover. One sample copy for $1 there-after:the usual.

The cover for this issue is quite funny and quite ugly. That seems to be characteristic of MOTA, it has good material,very good material,but it doesn't look that well put together. . So ignore its appearence, as Arthur Hlavaty recommends. Terry writes about his trip to AUTOCLAVE 3 as GOH. Bob Shaw, the same Bob Shaw who has books appearing every couple months,writes of his days as a draftsman of a singularly strange firm in Calgary and the almost desperate efforts of the workers there not to lose face. There are some witty letters and some clever illos from Joe Staton and Harry Bell. It's a good zine. Rating -- 5.

QUINAPALUS #2 (December,1978) M.K.Digre, editor. 1902 S.4th Ave., Minneapolis,Minn. 55404. 20 pages mimeo. Available for 50¢ or the usual.

Ken Fletcher contributes a hilarious hand-stenciled minn-stipple madness cover Terry Hughes contributes a delightful piece of faan fiction concerning the dangers of test-tube babies.(Complete with Fletcher illos) . The editor writes about how he came to like coffee and the letterhacks have a go at it. And the public domain Mark Twain story,"1601" A Fireside Conversation",is reprinted. The Twain piece is really dull. The Hughes piece is really great and is worth getting the fanzine for. Rating -- 4.

RALLY #41 Don Markstein, editor.8208 E. Vista Dr., Scottsdale,AZ. 85253. 5 pages mimeo. Available for 25¢ or 4/$1. Dated November 7,1978)

The Southern Fried Newszine, the one that got Ellison all fried out of shape. There's a lot of news about southern fans and happenings that don't appear in the other newszines. Sometimes the Deep South seems more remote than England or Australia. Markstein doesn't take the role of newszine editor too seriously but doesn't seem to screw up the news either. Enjoyable. Rating -- 4

SCIENCE FICTION VOTARY #5. Steve Perram, editor. 2920 Meridian St., Bellingham,Wash. 98225. 6 pages offset. Available for the usal. Lated dated entry--Dec. 19,1978.

I've taken a liking to this zine that probably exceeds its true worth -- if any fanzine can be said to have "worth." The cover by Rick Jansen is interesting in conception and fairly well executed. The five pages of contents is a mixture of letters, reviews and editorial nattering. It appears roughly monthly and always 6 pages. It's appeal may be that with its frequency,SFV comes across as fans chatting together, which I rather like. Rating -- 4.(The rating in WoFan #4 may have been a bit inflated.)

SHAMBLES #3 (October,1978) Editors: Ed Cagle
Star Rt. So.,
Box 80
Locust Grove, OK. 74352

and

Dave Locke
3650 Newton St. #15
Torrance, CA. 90505.

24 pages mimeo. Available for the usual. Trades and locs go to Cagle, sample copy may be had for an interesting letter of request to Locke.

BIG EROTIC ISSUE (or so it says) "Nude Centerfold of Harry Warner." ah, promises,

promises. What's amazing is not that there isn't a nude centerfold of Harry Warner, but that there is actually another issue of this zine. 15 months have passed since the last issue,Ed Cagle, Dave Locke and columnist Dean Grennell are three of the funniest writers in fandom, tho none in this issue seem to be at their best. Cagle writes on running a scout camp and tells tales men tell over bars, Locke talks on more fannish matters and his love for Fernwood 2-Nite (A show I always loved,too) and Grennell writes on interesting non-sequiturs.. The repro is pretty poor for Jackie Causgrove -- largely because she didn't bother to slipsheet the bond paper she was using. The offset is rather distracting. I'm glad to see the guys back Rating -- 4

SIMULACRUM #8 (December,1978) Victoria Vayne,editor. Box 156 Stn D, Toronto,Ont. Canada m6p 3j8. 46 pages mimeo (multicolor,too) and 2 covers offset.

This is Victoria's "Doomsday" issue. Don D'Ammassa tells all about a horde of trashy bestsellers dealing with ecology gone mad. Ben Indick surveys a number of bestsellers on how to destroy New York, Angus Taylor critiques "Post-Industrialism" (The philosophical model used by most futurologists. And Al Sirois offers three dooms of Tokyo. Non-ecologically speaking, Rich Bartucci does in lawyers in his "Counsellor,Nolo Contendere" and Angus Taylor indules in an elaborate pun. D'Ammassa and Indick are interesting writers, tho one begins to wonder after a while why D'Ammassa bothered to read so many obviously trashy novels. Victoria's editorial is satisfactorily introductive and in its second part announces a change in SIM to a new,fannish,model. For all this I find myself admiring things like her double-spread T.O.C. with the art credited under each article, her use of colored ink to highlight features, her expert printing of multi-color illos,her use of xerox reduction and electrostenciling on the lettercol and sundry other bits of design graphics. SIM-ULACRUM's physical appearence continues to overshadow the zine's contents. It's clearly a zine for people who want to see what good layout looks like and what one can do with a mimeo. As a genzine it does have good, somewhat serconish material somewhat superior to the contnets of many genzines. Rating -- 5.

SCHMAGG #2 December,1978) Michael S Hall, editor. (new address) 8833--92 St., Edmonton,Alberta, Canada t6c 3p9. 42 pages mimeo. Available for the usual.

A rather attractively done personalzine with some delightful additional material by other fans. Michael Hall writes of the cons he's attended and the ways that Edmondton has affected him. It certainly has as this decadent Winnipeg fan has pulled up roots and moved to Edmondton. In addition to that is a four part cartoon series "What Makes Winnipeg Decadent" by David Vereschagin and an interview with Garth Danielson (the original decadent Winnipegger) conducted by james a hall(who may or may not be real) . There's a poem by Gary Mattingly and lots of nice illos, a lettercol and even some color. A good zine. Rating -- 4.

SPANG BLAH #19 (Summer,1978) Jan Howard Finder, editor. P O Box 428, Latham,NY 12110. 16 pages offset. Available for ? -- try a dollar.

Subtitled a "Bargain of Barker" this issue features 15 full page illos by British fan artist Jim Barker with a bit of a bio by Rob Jackson. Jim's a very good, cartoon-ish artist. His"American Express is Honored everywhere" is a gem. And the six- page strip,"Space Trek 1999" reveals the presence of a good humorist who wants what would happen he proposes, if the ENTERPRISE ran into Earth's Moon millions of light-years from Earth. It's an all art issue, kind of interesting if you're into art. Rating -- 4

SPECTRE #1 (September,1978) Perry Middlemiss,editor. P O Box 98, Rundle St., Adelaide, 5000 Australia. 42 pages offset (quarto size) Available for 50¢A or the usual.

A clubzine of the Adelaide University SF Association. There's a wide mix of material in this issue. There are interviews of Susan Wood and Rusty Hevelin -- from Aussiecon (1975),a piece on the first Time Travel story, a discussion of why some fan eds never produce a second issue, a look at the myth of the vampire that's pretty good,espcially in discussing the origins of the legends of the undead in

medeval times but ends in mid-thought, almost, while discussing Richard Matheson's use of these legends in his I AM LEGEND. A long article on psychology and consciousness rounds out the issue. It's an interesting article on the shape of consciousness that reads like class term paper. SPECTRE is very attractively put together, one might even say profession looking. There's a lot of good material here but nothing that really stands out. Rating -- 4

TANTRUM #1 (December,1978) Bruce Pelz,editor. 15931 Kalisher St., Granada Hills, Ca. 91344. 10 pages mimeo. Available for the editor's whim.

A personalzine mostly involved with a dissecton of this year's LOSCON, which seems to have not gone off well. Interestingly written, a peek into that mysterious realm of the L.A. fan. Rating --3

THIS HOUSE #4 (November,1978) John A. Purcell, editor. 3381 Sumter Ave. So., St. Louis Park,Minn. 55426. 24 pages offset. Available for the usual or 50¢.

A personalzine. Contents includes besides the usual book/ zine reviews and letters, an Iguanacon Notebook and a bit of faan fiction from Orson Scott Card. Card's story struck me as merely vulgar rather than funny or satirical. Rating -- 3

TWLL DDU #14 (Oct/Nov,1978) David Langford,editor. 22 Northumberland Ave., Reading Berks,rg2 7pw England. 14 pages mimeo Available for the usual or 25p (50¢).

A silly Silicon report by a fan who knows how to make words stand up and do tricks. This one is done as the supposed script of a television report of the convention,such as might by presented on WORLD INACTION or the like programming. And all down with a timing and ear for dialog of master humorists. It is the only zine that regularly makes me convulse with laughter. Highly reccomended.Rating --6.

VOICE OF THE LOBSTER #1 (November 15,1978) George Flynn,editor. c/o Noreascon II, P.O.Box 46, MIT Branch P.O.,Canbridge,Mass. 02139. 35 pages mimeo.Offset cover. Available for 50¢ the issue or $2 for all issues. No trades.

(Damn, I'll have to pay money for this!) A zine for the purpose of talking about the running of a worldcon. The idea is taken from Greg Brown's abortive Spicy Iguaua Tails. This group hopes to publish four or more issues before Noreascon II in 1980. There are two Official pronouncements here, an accounting for the money spent bidding and a justification of the worldcon's membership rates. Then there are ten pages of letters offering advice on how to run the con and a ten page report on the Iguanacon business meeting (World SF Society,Uninc. business.) It's a rather fascinating publication if you're into fan politics. Rating -- 4

VORPAL #5 (July,1978) Richard Brandt, 4013 Sierra Dr., Mobile Al. 36609. 9 pages offset. Available for 50¢ or the usual.

A personalzine with three years between issues. The editorial natter is pleasently written and there is a very interesting report on the filming of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND which was partially filmed in Mobile. Rating --3

YANDRO (December,1978) Buck and Juanita Coulson ,editors. Issue #245. 40 pages mimeo. Available for 75¢ or 5/$3.

There's a lovely Stu Shiffman cover illustrating a story by Sandra Miesel , a bit overdone satire of a Leigh Brackett story starring Buck. There are Buck and Juanita's usual columns, the usual book reviews, letters, "things that go bump in the mailbox -- in fact everything in YANDRO is usual, this zine hasn't changed in style since probably long before I got into fandom. It's a pleasent and comfortable zine and with three or four issue appearing a year, almost frequent. Rating -- 4

ZOSMA #12 (December,1988) Steve George,editor, 94 Brock St., Winnipeg,Manitoba, Canada r3n oy4. 16 pages offset and mimeo. Available for the usual or $3/year.

Another personalzine from Winnipeg.The zine is very well printed and designed.

Most of Steve's writing is in the form of reviews of books or movies or zines. There is an article by Tim Ender on Christmas shopping (he's against it) and the letters. Pleasent and enjoyable -- Rating -- 3.

ZEALOT #2, Zealook #2 and Zealate #1.(November,1978) Ragnar Fyri, editor.,Forlaget Bactrianus, Solliveien 37, N 1370 Asker Norway. Available for the usual.

ZEALOT has an unusal format, A5 paper folded in half lengthwise, forming a zine 4 inches wide and 11 3/4 inches long. with 60 pages. LEALOOK is printed normally but bound into the center of ZEALOT. Ragnar, or Sopwith, as he likes to call himself is a very demented person, almost too demented for even my warped tastes. Or perhaps it is that he works too hard at being funny. In any case I grew tired of his silliness about halfway through the zine. A shorter zine would certainly be well advised. Sopwith, who writes the whole thing in English, likes to use the Second Person pural --Thee,thou, which is kind of irratating and worse uses "an" almost at random. I don't see any pattern to his misuse of the word. I hate to do it to someone from outside the English speaking nations but, Rating -- 2.

AND THAT'S THE FANZINES FOR DECEMBER,that is, those I received in December.

ERIC LINDSAY sends an open letter --

"Over the past several years DUFF, the Down Under Fan Fund, has operated to take a North American fan to Australia to attend the Australian National Convention, held in August before the Worldcon, or in alternate years, to take an Australian fan to North America for the World Science Fiction Convention. Past Winners were Lesleigh Luttrell (1972), Leigh Edmonds (1974) ,Rusty Hevelin (1975), Christine Ashby (nee McGowan, 1976), William Rotsler(1977), and Paul Stevens (1978). DUFF is funded by the contributions of contributors, fans who have donated a minimum of $1.50 to vote for the various nominees, and also by the proceeds of fan auctions and other fund raising efforts.

"The 1979 DUFF race, to bring an American fan to Australia, is likely to fail. Not because of a lack of generosity or support by fans, but because there are at present no canidates entered in the DUFF race. Due to various misunderstandings and mail delays, not the fault of the current DUFF administrators, the only fanzines in which the DUFF race has been announced have been two Australian newszines, John Foyster's "Chunder" and Merv Binns' "Australian Science Fiction News."

"DUFF needs candidates, and it needs them now. Official requirements are nomination by three (3) American fans and two (2) Australian fans, a five dollar bond posted with the administrator, and a written DUFF platform of about one hundred words.

"In the interests of getting the 1979 DUFF race started with the least possible delay, and because nominations would have to close early in the year, would everyone interested in being a candidate please write now to the Australian administrator. Please do not wait to arrange your nominators --this sort of thing can be forwarded later. If interested in running for DUFF, write straight away to the Austrlian Administrator:

Paul J Stevens
c/o SPACE AGE books
305 Swanston St.
Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Australia"

--- BEB here --- here's your chance dear friends! You,too , can see the world, make new friends and all that. Run for DUFF.

S T A L K I N G T H E P E R F E C T F A N Z I N E

Previously we have looked at the amount of time a "typical" fanzine of 24 pages in length and 200 copies would take to produce from first word to last stamp, and how much such a zine would cost, using different means of printing-- offset, xerox and ditto. This time we look at

THE MIMEO

Mimeography is often refered to as stencil duplication -- particularly over-sea and by Gestetner personnel. Probably because that is what it is. My dictionary mentions that mimeograph was formerly a trademark, just as xerox is becoming a generic name beyond mere trademarks.

A stencil, to wax elementary for a moment, is a form placed over a surface one wants marked with letters or a design. The stencil is made out of some impervious material, like cardboard, with the lettering or design cut out.Ink is painted across the length of the stencil, marking the surface where the stencil has been cut away. The stencil is removed, the printing remains.

With stencil duplication one types or drawns upon a wax impregnated tissue which is then placed on a machine which spreads ink acorss one side of the stencil and pressed against a sheet of paper. The pressure from the impact of the typer's keys or a drawing stylus pushes the wax aside on the stencil, which permitts the ink to pass thru. One can make copies for as long as the stencil holds out, which can be as long as 5 or 10 thousand copies.

The mimeo may already be an obsolete means of printing due to the development of cheap offset printers and xerox. Still it is probably the only printing system that can be owned outright by a fan. New equipment is expensive ($1800 or so for a top of the line Gestetner) but used models abound. Depending on where one gets them, they can be expensive (thru a dealer) or cheap (thru the classified ads.) Figure to spend $2-300 and up to$600.

Mimeo's come in two basic designs: the drum and the silkscreen. A drum style mimeo consists basically of a revolving hollow drum. Ink is poured inside and seeps thru perforations in the drum. The ink then soaks into a flannel mat. The stencil is clipped over the mat. Paper is feed between the drum and an impression roller, which squeezes the paper against the stencil. The advantage of the drum mimeo is that it is cheaper and simplier in design. Fans, I understand, have built their own out of tin cans.

The silkscreen model uses a much more complicated ink delivery system to acheive more even and reliable ink flow. A length of silk is wrapped around a pair of large rollers. Two smaller,felt-covered rollers are mounted against the top roller. As the mimeo turns these move back and forth absorbing and re distributing the ink evenly against the top roller, which transfer the ink to the screen of silk. The stencil is clipped over the silk-screen and im pression roller at the bottom sandwichs the paper,stencil and silkscreen against the bottom large roller. The advantage of the silk screen is that ink is mechanically pumped unto the silkscreen instead of relying on gravity to draw it thru the perforations of a drum mimeo, thus larger areas ofblack can be satisfactoryly printed.

All mimeo stencils as basically the same but each company uses its special design to make their stencils unusable on another company's machine. It becomes necessary , when buying stencils to know what machine you'll be using to print them on. The most common are the Standard (4-hole), Gestetner (9-hole),Geha, Rex Rotary and Roneo. The 4-hole stencil comes 8½ inches wide, the others are all 9 inches wide, they differ in the number of holes and dimensions of the header tab. And oddly enough non-American Gestetner machines use a different header from American machines, one that's about an inch longer and has hordes of little holes. Actually any stencil can be made to fit any machine, if one wants to take the time and trouble to punch new holes, widen stencils, etc., as

needed. It's easier to just get the right stencils the first time.

Stencils can be had from most any office supply store, usually for around $6 for a box of 24. Be sure to tell the clerk what style of stencil you want, Standard 4-hole, Gestetner, Roneo,etc. The clerk may also ask' with or without film' -- I recomend with film. What they're refering to is a sheet of pliofilm, a thin, tough, clear plastic sheet that will lie between the stencil and the typewriter keys. It will keep wax from building up on the keys, giving you a clear impression and a more readable zine. But more on this in the next issue where I will talk about perparing stencils.

Sears still sells a cheap ($150) hand-crank mimeo and I recently saw advertised on TV a "hand-press" mimeo -- basically a metal tray with an inkpad glued to it. You ink the pad, clip a regular mimeo stencil over it and press it down on a sheet of paper sort of like a giant rubber stamp. While it sounds like an incredible laborious way ot print a zine -- for $35, the price might be right.

o O O

C O A s

Wayne W. Martin, Box 4742 Fresno,Ca. 93744
Stephanie Oberembt, 3350 Crestwood Dr., Dubuque,IA 52001
D. Gary Grady -- does anyone have his new address?
Marc Schirmeister, 1555 Vista Ln., Pasadena,Ca. 91103
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Erika Aaronsson, 340 Royal York Rd.#213, Toronto,Ont. m8y 2p9
Jackie Hilles, 2240 Alameda, San Metro, Ca. 94403

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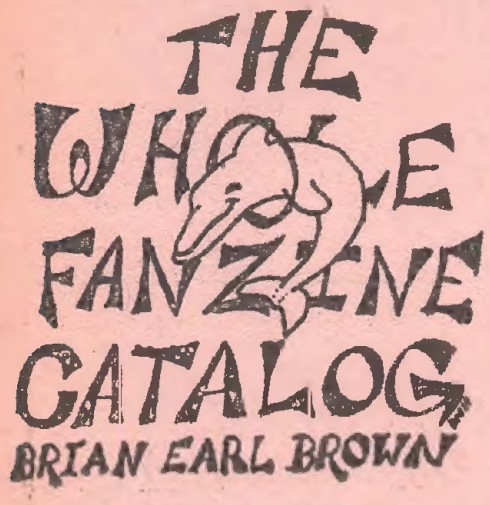
Don't forget to send in your WoFan poll nominations before Febuary 15th. Front cover is by Bill Bryan. Back page logo by Denice M. Hudspeth. circulated thru FAPA.



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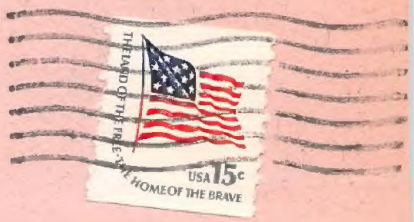

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